

## Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole/joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Improvements in or Relating to Connection Arrangements

the specification of which:

( X ) is attached hereto.

( ) was filed on  
as Application serial no.  
and was amended on

( ) was described and claimed in PCT International Application No.  
, filed on and amended under PCT  
Article 19 on

EXPRESS MAIL  
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the  
U.S. Postal Service by Express Mail addressed to the  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20530

12/2/00  
Marek Buzinski

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

If this application is a continuation-in-part application, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

### Prior Foreign Application(s)

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Priority Claimed (Yes/No)</u>
0000129.7	United Kingdom	6th January 2000	Yes

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below, and insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal

Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing of this application:

Application Serial No.                      Filing Date                      Status - Patented, Pending, Abandoned

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: T.E. Fisher, Reg. No. 18,271; L.L. Heinke, Reg. No. 19,471; J.G. Watterson, Reg. No. 20,180; L.J. Raney, Reg. No. 23,078; J.R. Hlavka, Reg. No. 29,076; S.J. Schultz, Reg. No. 29,108; R.A. Sharpe, Reg. No. 34,722; G.L. Pinchak, Reg. No. 37,697; P.A. Serbinowski, Reg. No. 34,429; and M.C. Fagan, Reg. No. 37,542. Send correspondence to:

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